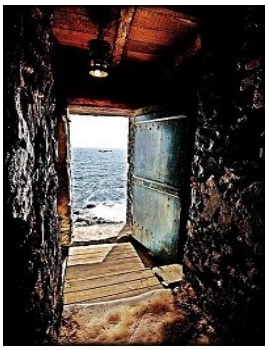
THE ENSLAVEMENT OF AFRICAN PEOPLES

THE SLAVE TRADE – THE PLANTATION ECONOMY - LEGACIES - REPARATIONS - COLONIALISM

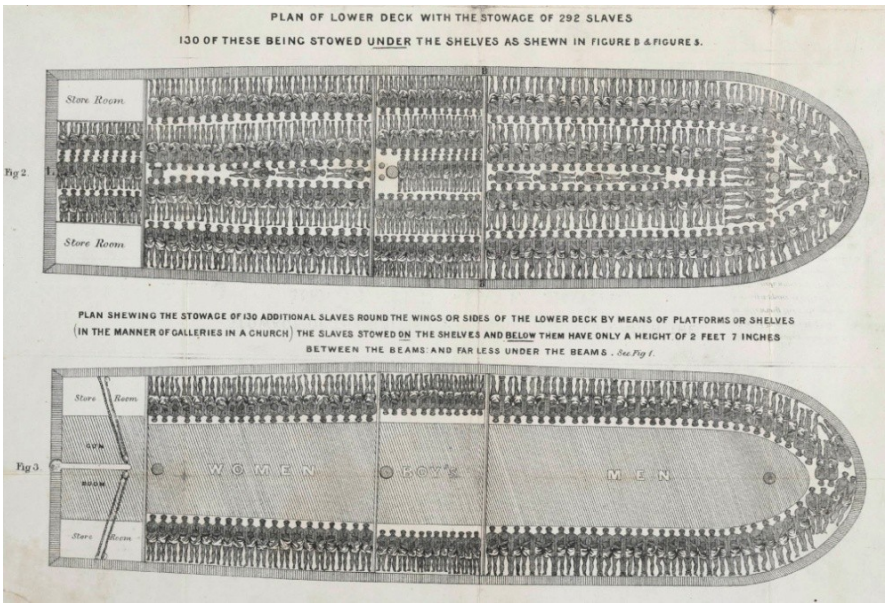
...CONNECTING THE DOTS...

SANKOFA BIRD, an Akan- Kwa group - Ghana- proverb the symbol that our past is always with us and that the past present and future is all connected.

THE SLAVE TRADE



The "door of no return", Gorée Senegal, through which slaves went to embark on ships to the Americas and the Caribbean



Slavery has existed in various forms since ancient times. Rome was a slave society; War captives were considered legally enslaved, and Roman military expansion during the Republican era was a major source of slaves (Wikipedia).

Chattel slavery was the cornerstone of the colonisation of the Americas and the Caribbean, a crime against humanity and the denial of the most basic of human rights*; The right to life, liberty and security of person* (Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights - 1948).

SACRED ROOTS

"A *people* without knowledge of *their history*, origin, and culture are like a tree without *roots*" (Marcus Garvey Founder of U.S. Back - to Africa – Movement 1920's)

African ancestral traditions have survived throughout the Caribbean and the Americas. Complex cross-rhythmic drumming, which accompany traditional practices, is central to African music, and, to various degrees, can still be found throughout the Caribbean and Brazil in particular.

Different African drumming traditions throughout the regions may be explained as drums were banned in the British colonies, but not in other colonial possessions.

A complex network of African religious practices and divinities, **"Orishas"** (gods or guardians), have been retained throughout the Caribbean, Brazil, and elsewhere in the Americas, and are still observed by descendants of African slaves.

In **Brazil,** The divinities worshipped are **Obatala**, , the sky god, **Shango**, the god of thunder , **Oshun**, goddess of sensual lore; **Ogun**, Shango's brother, god of smiths and war; **Oshossi**, god of hunters; **Yemanja** , goddess of sea waters and love.

In **Cuba**, a popular manifestation of African influence is the **Santeria**) (A blend of Catholicism and African Spiritualism), the way of the saints, the Regla **Lucumi**, based mainly on the Orishas of the Yoruba and Bantu people of Nigeria and Guinea. **Eleggua**, **Oggun**, **Obatala**, **Shango**, **Yemaya** and many more are prominent.

There is also the all male **Abakua secret society** in Cuba, with its original Yoruba language, as well as the **Palo**, a smaller group, Las Reglas de Congo.

(Los Orishas en Cuba, Natalia Bolívar - 1990)

In **Trinidad and Tobago** the ritual Orisha **Shango** of the Yoruba people, is widely practiced.

In **Jamaica**, there are also spiritual beliefs of the slaves who came to the country. These can found mainly in the practice of **Ettu**, an elaborate ceremony performed on commemorative occasions by communities of Yoruba descendants.

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Haiti, said to be the most "African" country in the region, maintains strong links to the ancestral "Voodoo" traditions of the Fon people (Benin, formally Dahomey).

Among the many **Loas** (spirits) in Haiti, there are **Ogoun** (The god of fire and war), **Erzulie** (love and beauty) and **Papa Legba** who provides the links to other Loas.

(Divine Horsemen – The Living Gods of Haiti - Maya Deren – 1953)

The secret **Petro** divinities (Congo origins, associated with fire and magic) were "called upon" in the violent slave revolt against Napoleon's forces that lead to Haiti's liberation from France on January 1, 1804.

Black American Music - Western Thought and the African Dilemma

When Europeans colonized, raped and pillaged Africa, it wrought devastation upon the Motherland from which she still has yet to recover. The good news is that Black people have known themselves longer than not. With respect to the history of the world, African displacement — both physical and mental — is a relatively new construct. From that point of view, 500 years isn't that long at all.

We were taught that everything we practiced was wrong; our spiritual ceremonies, our gods, our relationship with the ancestors — all of it. Most African people are ashamed of their history and the only impression they have of it is typically the one they've been given.

Blacks in America are taught to be afraid of voodoo; that to connect and communicate with the spirits of the otherworld is evil and can be deadly. And if one violates what God and Christ wants, your soul will be damned to hell. This is all untrue.

The truth is: Our survival depends on ancestry. It is our insight into the past, present and future. Without a connection to them, we are not really alive.

We actually know all this already, but most of us have either forgotten or have suppressed it because we are taught to be afraid. The reality of it is there's more harm in us not establishing a relationship with our ancestors. Those who play music should be intimately attuned to negotiating between the physical and spiritual realms. Sound is an invisible but quantifiable force. We use physical

instruments to produce a spiritual result. This is why music is a universal language. It defies category.

When I speak of the African Dilemma and Black Thought, there's a larger operation at play here. I speak of reclaiming what's originally ours; that our gods and methods were good enough that we didn't have to adopt those of our oppressor. For the Black American community, music has been our greatest ally. It has swept contempt from the corners of our oppressor's mind that the broom of justice could never reach.

We need to embrace our traditions now more than ever. The light on our recall is growing dim and the spark needs to be reignited, in the name of all things Black. We must work tirelessly to reestablish and fortify our genealogical ties with those who came before us so that we leave a better place for those to come. (Nicholas Payton aka The Creator of #BAM)

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International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade -- 25 March 2022

A. Missouri Sherman-Peter, LLD (HON.) is Ambassador and Permanent Observer of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to the United Nations.

It is now universally understood and accepted that the transatlantic trade in enchained, enslaved Africans was the greatest crime against humanity committed in what is now defined as the modern era. In terms of its scale and its social, psychological, spiritual and physical brutality, specifically inflicted upon Africans as a targeted ethnicity, this vastly profitable business, and the considerable subsequent suppression of the inhumanity and criminal nature of slavery, was ubiquitous and usurping of moral values.

The demographics that the juggernaut economic enterprise of the slave trade and slavery represented are today well known, in large measure thanks to nearly three decades of dedicated scientific and historical research, driven significantly by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and by recent initiatives. Some 12 to 20 million Africans were enslaved in the western hemisphere after an Atlantic voyage of 6 to 10 weeks. This voyage, now known as the "Middle Passage", consumed some 20 per cent of its "human cargo". Disease and death were common outcomes in this human tragedy.

The Caribbean was at the core of the crime against humanity induced by the transatlantic slave trade and slavery. Some 40 per cent of enslaved Africans shipped to the Caribbean Islands, which, in the seventeenth century, surpassed Portuguese Brazil as the principal market for enslaved labour. The sugar plantations of the region owned and operated primarily by English, French, Dutch, Spanish, and Danish colonists, consumed black life as quickly as it was imported.

The Caribbean was where chattel slavery took its extreme form, known as the Slave Code, was the first instituted by the English in Barbados. This 1661 law, defined Africans, as “heathens” and “brutes”, not fit to be governed by the same laws as Christians. The legislators proceeded to define Africans as non-human—a form of property to be owned by purchasers, and their heirs forever.

The Slave Code went viral across the Caribbean, and ultimately became the model applied to slavery in the North American English colonies that would become the United States.

The legacy of the social and economic institution of slavery is to be found everywhere within these societies and is particularly dominant in the Caribbean.

While colonialism has been in retreat since the mid-20th century, it persists as a political feature of the region. Europe remains a colonial power over some 15 per cent of the region’s population, and it is generally understood that the relationship between the United States and Puerto Rico is colonialist.

Many European nations participated in the Atlantic trade, the biggest forced migration in history, and were responsible for the enslavement of African peoples; by financing expeditions –or providing goods to be traded and purchase captives (metals, cloth, beads, alcohol, guns, and ammunition) - or by operating plantations.

In the fifteenth century, Portugal became the first European nation to take significant part in African slave trading.

The slave trade had profound consequences for Europe. Between the early 1500s and the early 1800s, the slave trade became one of Europe's largest and most profitable industries. Profits from the slave trade were said to run as high as 300 percent. Slavery took root in the American colonies slowly. As early as 1619, a Dutch ship carried the first Africans to Virginia, but it would not until the 1680s that slavery became the dominant labor system on plantations; as late as 1640, there were probably only 150 Africans in Virginia, and 300 in 1650.

By 1680 however, the number had risen to 3,000 and by 1704 to 10,000. Faced by a shortage of white indentured servants, and fearful of revolt, English settlers increasingly resorted to enslaved Africans.

While slavery did not create a major share of the capital that financed Europe's Industrial Revolution, slave labor did produce the major consumer goods that were the basis of world trade during the 17th, 18th

and early 19th centuries: coffee, cotton, run, sugar, and tobacco. In addition, the slave trade provided stimulus to shipbuilding, banking, and insurance, and Africa became a major market for iron, textiles, firearms, and rum. In colony after colony, Europeans shifted from Indigenous to African slaves, partly for demographic reasons. Because of epidemic diseases, which reduced the native population, the labor supply was insufficient to meet demand. Africans, however, possessed many skills that were valuable in settling the New World.

They were experienced in intensive agriculture and raising livestock, and knew how to raise crops like rice that Europeans were unfamiliar with.

Initially, colonists in every English colony relied on indentured white servants (Immigrants who were under contract to work without salary and repay a loan for the voyage, mainly from England, Scotland and Ireland) rather than on black slaves.

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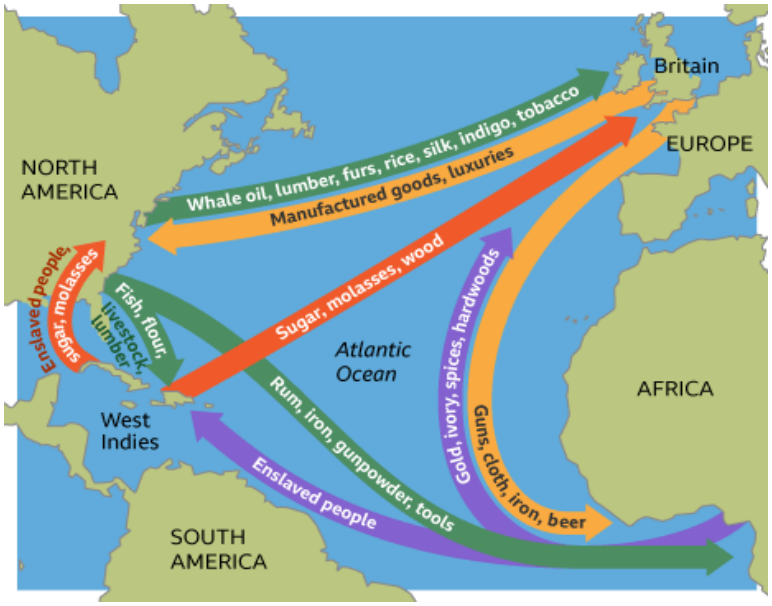
During the late 15th and early 16th centuries, England's population grew by over a third, much faster than its economy. To address a sudden explosion of poverty and crime, England's rulers forced the poor to toil in workhouses, and beginning in 1547, enslaved vagabonds and branded them with the letter "S".

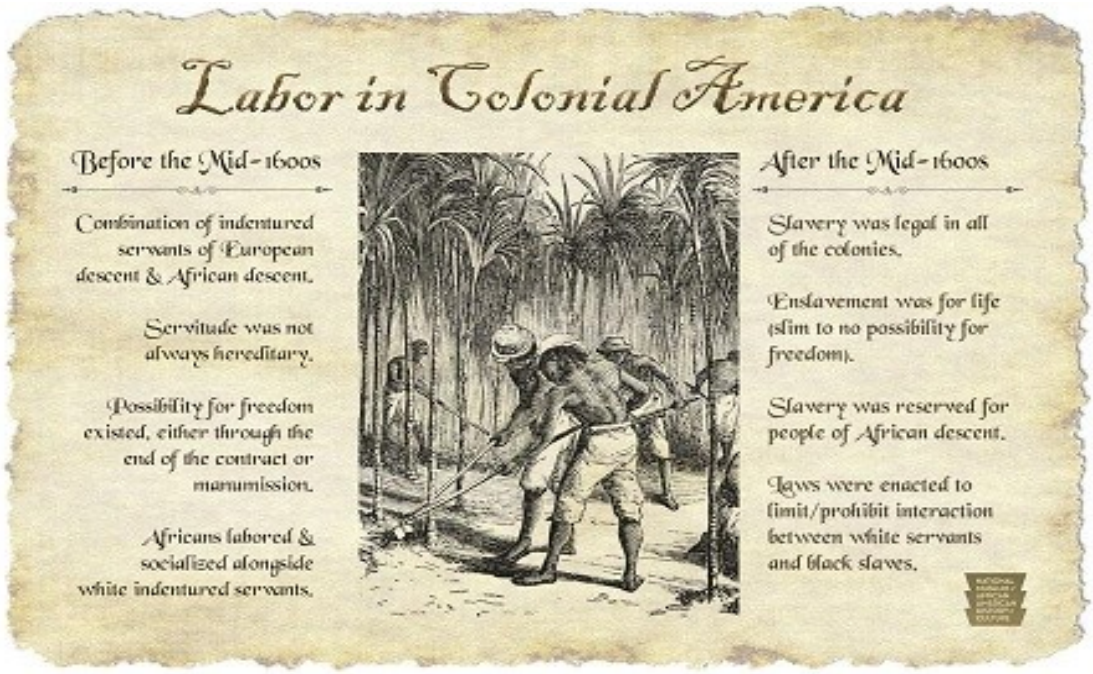
In the early 1600s, England viewed “New World” colonisation as a providential solution to their country's problem of overpopulation. Thousands of England's unemployed and underemployed farmers, urban labors, debtors, and criminals were shipped as indentured servants to the New World, where they contributed to England's wealth.

https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtid=2&psid=449

Black labor became the foundation stone not only of the Southern social structure (of the United States) but of Northern manufacture and commerce, of the English factory system, of European commerce, of buying and selling on a world-scale (W.E.B. Du Bois Pan-Africanist civil rights activist -1868 - 1963).



Africans laboured and socialised alonside white indentured servants



State and private sponsored slavery lasted from 1501(Spain-Santo Domingo) until 1888 (Brazil), almost 400 years. Approximately 12.5 million (The generally accepted figure) Africans were shipped across the Atlantic during this period, while an estimated 1.8 million died during the horrendous middle passage. **(slavevoyages.org)**

The earliest recorded slave auction was when 235 slaves, captured by Portuguese seamen somewhere between Morocco and Senegal, were debarked in Lagos, Portugal, on the 8th of August 1444. Prince Henrique, aka the *Navigadora* (who never actually navigated) received a certain number of slaves, the *quinto*/royal tax.

Today in commemoration of that historic event there is a small *Mercado de Escravos* museum in Lagos/Algarve.

In 1455, Portuguese sailors reached the uninhabited islands of Cabo Verde. The *Romanus Pontifex* - Royal Charter of the same year, gave permission to own and trade enslaved people from Africa. Slaves on Cabo Verde worked, producing cotton, sugar, and subsistence crops, as well as in domestic service. Cabo Verde and São Tomé islands served as Portugal's main transshipment centers for the Atlantic Trade.

In August 1619, some 30 Africans carried aboard the English ship White Lion landed in Jamestown Virginia and exchanged for supplies with the first English settlers, marking the first period of slavery in North America.

The 1776 United States Declaration of Independence was written by the slave master and future president, Thomas Jefferson, while almost three quarters of the 56 signers of the declaration were enslavers.

Countries involved and the estimated numbers of slaves shipped to plantations from 1501 to 1875

Portugal 5,848,266 (approx.46%), - **Spain** 1,061,524 (apporx.6.5%) - **Great Britain** 3,259,441 (approx. 26%) - **The Netherlands** 554,336 (approx. 5%) - **France** 1,381,404 (approx. 11%) - **Denmark** 111,040 (approx 1 %.) – **US** 305,326 (approx 3%)

https://www.statista.com/statistics/1150477/number-slaves-taken-by-national-carriers/

THE PLANTATION ECONOMY

"A Slave Mode of Production"

(Citation H. Orlando Patterson – Slavery in Human History – New Left Review 1979)

Slavery and empire were two concepts that are connected in the Atlantic world. From the first moments of Spanish discovery, and settlement of the Caribbean and the Americas, slavery played a crucial role in the development of European colonies.

The transatlantic slave trade emerged as one of the most lucrative transnational enterprises ever and fuelled the development of the new economic system of capitalism in Europe. Moreover, some of the wealth and property accumulated at the time, and many of the institutions created during that era, still exist today.

Slaves also produced the products for the first mass consumer markets: sugar, tobacco, coffee, cocoa, and later cotton. Slavery was an integral part of the earliest multinational systems of credit and trade that arose in the 15th and 16th centuries.

https://understandingslavery.com/casestudy/economics-and-the-accumulation-of-wealth/

Slavery fueled the British Industrial Revolution

Barbados was the First Slave Society, the birthplace of British plantations, a multifaceted system of slavery that flourished within the British Empire, and the most ruthlessly colonised by Britain's ruling elites. They made their fortunes from sugar produced by an enslaved, "disposable" workforce, and this great wealth secured Britain's place as an imperial superpower. (The First Black Slave Society: Britain's "Barbarity Time" in Barbados, 1636-1876 . Sir Hilary Beckles).

The trade in slaves and the profits from the plantations provided the capital that funded the Industrial Revolution in England and Scotland (1672 and 1731), and built the great port cities (Liverpool, Bristol and Nantes /France in particular) connected with the triangular trade. (Capitalism and Slavery Eric Williams Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago 1944)

The 19th century was one of rapid development and change. During this period England changed from a rural, agricultural country to an urban, industrialised one.
https://www.history.org.uk/primary/resource/3871/victorian-britain-a-brief-history

Slavery and the growth of America's economy

Before the widespread use of enslaved labor in the United States, the colonial and early national economy was primarily agricultural, with a significant reliance on indentured servitude.
https://www.vox.com/identities/2019/8/16/20806069/slavery-economy-capitalism-violence-cotton-edward-baptist

Slavery helped the U.S. go from a colonial economy to the second biggest industrial power in the world. This period saw a move from a predominantly subsistence-based economy towards a commercial economy. "Nearly two average American lifetimes (79 years – until 2025) have passed since the end of slavery (1865), only two. It is not surprising that we can still feel the looming presence of this institution which helped turn a poor, fledgling nation into a financial colossus. (Author Matthew Desmond)

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/slavery-capitalism.html

Stolen Labor and Hindered Opportunity

Over the 200-plus years of slavery's existence in this country, enslavers extracted an estimated $14 trillion of labor from the human beings they enslaved. (Center for Am. Progress, Systematic Inequality -https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/ch10-ca-reparations.pdf)

From Elizabeth I to William IV British monarchs had links to the slave trade.

According to historians, over a period of 270 years, twelve British monarchs sponsored and profited from Britain's involvement in slavery.

Royal connections with the slave trade first began with Elizabeth I who gave her support to John Hawkins' slaving expeditions in the 1560s.

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/apr/06/the-british-kings-and-queens-who-supported-and-profited-from-slavery

Britain was prolific in the slave trade between 1672 and 1731 in the Caribbean and North America, with sugar, tobacco, and cotton plantations. Britain was the world's biggest slave-trading nation.

Spain was the first country to establish sugar plantations in its colonies as early as the 1500's in Jamaica, with a plantation named *Sevilla la Nueva*. Between 1817 and 1867, Catalans were involved in the transportation of around 700,000 slaves from West Africa, mainly to Cuba, which financed much of the industrialisation of Catalonia.

The United States cotton, sugar and tobacco plantations were essential to the growth of its slave-driven economy. Slavery was the economic cornerstone of the country's wealth and a channel contributing to it becoming the world's largest economy.

Portugal's Brazilian colony had the largest slave population. Slave-labor, gold mining and sugar plantations were central to the development of Portugal's economy.

France abolished slavery in its colonies in 1794. Napoleon, however, reestablished slavery in 1804 until it was abolished again in 1848. France was another major colonial power that had extensive sugar plantations, the largest being in Haiti, which hugely profited its economy.

The Netherlands had colonies in Suriname and the Caribbean islands of Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, St Eustatius and St Maarten.

Denmark had colonies in the islands Saint Thomas, Saint Jan and Saint Croix.

Sweden provided slave labor to the Portuguese colony of São Tomé and later transported slaves to the Dutch island of Curacao.

Switzerland was involved in the slave trade through financial investments in ships that carried Africans to the Americas.

AFRICA

Major coastal regions from which captives were taken

African participation in the trade had never been general. Before the arrival of Europeans Africa had indigenous cultures and trading traditions including slavery, mainly war captives, developed over hundreds of years. With foreign incursions local traditions were disrupted and overwhelmed by the relentless demands of the Trade.

The introduction of European trading goods and customs progressively destabilized ancient African values and traditions, particularly in West African countries. (D.T. Niane, UNESCO - General History of Africa volume IV)

Because European weapons became essential to survival, African leaders had two choices, either collaborate with European enslavers or perish. Critically, many more Africans violently resisted the trade than were involved in it. **https://www.politicshome.com/thehouse/article/blacks-did-not-sell-blacks-into-slavery**

Instances were recorded where whole villages of men were willing to die in order to stop the enslavement of their people. (A Study of West African Slave Resistance, Adam D. Wilsey)

African rulers who opposed the Slave Trade

In 1526, King Afonso I of Kongo wrote a letter to King João III of Portugal, in which he clearly stated that he wanted the Kingdom of Kongo to play no part in the trade.

Unfortunately, many Congolese subjects continued to engage in the lucrative slave trade against their monarch's wishes (World History: Journeys from Past to Present).

The Jola of Casamance (Senegal) and the Baga (Guinea) refused to negotiate with Europeans.

King Tanja Musa (Ghana) built a wall to ward off slave raiders from invading Gwolu town.

In the 1670's the Muslim leader and reformer Nasr al-Din denounced slavery and banned the sale of slaves in Senegal.

The impact of the Slave Trade on Africa

(*Le Monde Diplomatique,* April 1998)

The African states fell into the trap set by the European slavers. Trade or go under.

Slavery within African society (often prisoners of war, debtors, or those who committed crimes) itself appears to indicate that it grew in parallel with the Atlantic slave trade, and reinforced it.

But the Africa of the 19th century was very different from the continent which Europeans had encountered four hundred years earlier. As the Trinidadian historian,

Walter Rodney has tried to show, Africa was drawn by the slave trade down a dangerous path, and it was now well and truly underdeveloped

How the International Slave Trade Underdeveloped Africa

(Historian Warren Whatley - US economist)

Slavery took place in Africa for more than five hundred years; Africans were traded within the continent and exported to the rest of the world to perform labour of different forms to nations including Spain, Britain, Dutch Empire, France and Portugal amongst others. There is also evidence that British merchant-capital financed the expansion of African slaving between 1750 and 1789

Recent econometric research has found recurring evidence that the international slave trades underdeveloped Africa: lower national incomes per capita, greater ethnic diversity, more polygyny as a family

organization, heightened conflict and mistrust, less access to credit, greater political corruption, and less local schooling.

In the 19th century, there was a movement for the abolition of slavery that gained momentum when slave masters saw no economic potential in the slave trade.

http://revealinghistories.org.uk/who-resisted-and-campaigned-for-abolition/articles/the-fight-african-resistance.html

The Black Codes: France and Spain reinforced the image of black people as inferior through the French act of 1685, and the Spanish decree of 1784.

In the French ***Code noire***, slaves were considered objects; "We declare slaves to be movable property" (Art.44).

The Spanish ***Codigo Negro*:** "Every Black, free or slave shall be obedient to every white person, as if each white was their master" (Art. 5).

Black codes were laws in the United States designed to limit the freedom of movement of African Americans, and ensure their availability as a cheap labor force after slavery was abolished by the 13th Amendment to the Constitution in 1865.

RESISTANCE

In 1521, there was a slave revolt in Spanish Santo Domingo, the island of Hispaniola.

The British colony of Jamaica was the scene of frequent slave revolts with many slaves escaping and founding *Free Black People* communities in the mountainous interior.

In Barbados, the African-born Bussa lead a slave rebellion against the British plantation owners in an effort to gain freedom.

There were also significant revolts in Brazil with slaves escaping and establishing "*quilombolas*" (Kimbundu, an Angolan term for "fortified settlement").

In the United States, the former slave Harried Tubman made multiple trips via the "Underground Railroad" to the North, a route often used by escaping slaves, saving around 300 people, including some 30 members of her own family.

Remembering Matilda, the last survivor of the transatlantic slave trade

On a cold December morning in 1931, a short, elderly Black woman set out on a 24km (15-mile) walk from her homestead in Selma Alabama, on a quest for justice.

The long trek to the court in Selma was no small undertaking for a person in her mid-70s. But Matilda McCrear was determined to go and make her legal claim for compensation for the horrors that she and her family had been through.

Until her death on January 13, 1940, Matilda was the last surviving passenger on the last slave ship bound from the West African coast to North America in late 1859.

Undated photograph of Matilda McCrear [Courtesy of John Crear]

Called "the mother of the civil rights movement," Rosa Parks invigorated the struggle for racial equality in The United States when she was arrested and jailed in 1955 for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama.

Before Rosa Parks, however, 15 year old Claudette Colvin was also arrested and had strongly opposed segregation laws on Alabama's buses, but as she was a poor pregnant teenager, Colvin was ignored by the conservative leaders of the civil rights movement and brushed out of its history.

Frederick Douglas 1818 – 1895

Frederick Douglass was a famous American abolitionist, writer, orator and leader of the African American civil rights movement in the 19th century.

In 1838, Douglass escaped to New York. Fearing for his safety and under the threat of capture and return to slavery, he sailed across the Atlantic and landed in Dublin on 31 August 1845, at the time when the Great Famine began (1845 – 1852).

"Douglass Week" is an annual commemoration of Frederick Douglass's time in Ireland. The fourth annual Week took place in Belfast in April 2024 where Frederick Douglass had visited multiple times and gave many speeches.

"Peace wall" in Falls Road – (catholic area) – Belfast - Douglass center.

LEGACIES

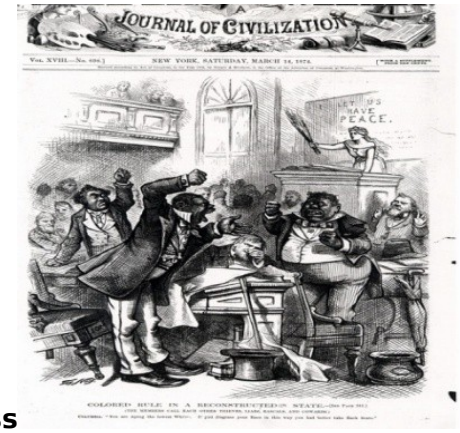
The long shadow of slavery

The long shadow of slavery still looms over the lives of people of African descent who carry with them the transgenerational trauma and who continue to confront marginalization, exclusion, and bigotry (UN Secretary General António Guterres).

Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome – America's legacy of enduring injury & healing (P.T.S.S.) is a condition that exists as a consequence of multigenerational oppression of Africans and their descendents resulting from centuries of chattel slavery; a form of slavery which was predicted on the belief that African Americans were inherently genetically inferior to whites. (Dr. Joy DeGruy – Book https://www.joydegruy.com/shop)

"Though the slavery question is settled, its impact is not. It is in our homes, on our streets, in our schools, in our courts and in our politics, all day, every day". (Cornelius Homes, Federal writers Slave Narrative Project, South Carolina, 1936)

The actions of those in power create a constant drip of images which seep into the national consciousness. (Joseph Harker - The Guardian - 2002):



"US Congress debate"

Following the Slavery Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, the 13th amendment to the United States Constitution stipulates that "*neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for a crime",* whereof the party shall have been duly convicted shall exist within the United States". Consequently, the clause *except as a punishment for a crime* left a discriminatory legal loophole that allows the industrialised U.S. prison complex to profit from *involuntary servitude,* slave-like labor; convicts without rights whose labor is the property of the state.

https://innocenceproject.org/how-the-13th-amendment-kept-slavery-alive-perspectives-from-the-prison-where-slavery-never-ended/

The currently more than 300 corporations in the American Prison System bring in about $6,000 to $14,000 in revenue for each inmate.

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The two biggest privately owned prison corporations are Corrections Corporation of America and the GEO Group generated $2.5 billion in 2012 alone. https://news.law.fordham.edu/jcfl/2018/12/09/the-american-prison-system-its-just-business/

Guard overseeing prisoners as they return from farm work at the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola, La August 2011. (Image: AP Photo/)

African retentions in prison work songs and other musical forms

Some of the oldest and most traditional work songs can be found among incarcerated African American's in the southern United States.

A common feature of work songs is the repetitive call- and- response format; a leader would call a verse and the others would respond with a refrain. This format originated in African traditions of agricultural field work.

Call and response served to ease repetitive tasks and the ways in which work songs create group dialogue. This format can be observed in many African American musical traditions, such as the blues, jazz and rap, continues to the present day. (African Retentions in the Blues – Paul Oliver 1970)

In England Prejudice was frequent in the 1950's, with assaults on Caribbean communities resulting, for example, in the 1958 race riots in Notting Hill, London, populated mainly by Caribbean, Irish and Polish immigrants.

We'll probably have these cycles of racist riots and anti-racist riots because that's history, the fabric of British society. (Professor Kehinde Andrews in open Democracy – 2024)

Boarding house - London

BED AND BREAKFAST - NO IRISH

NO BLACKS - NO DOGS

The Windrush scandal

Windrush was a British political outrage against Caribbean's who migrated to the UK between 1948 and 1973 and lived there legally.

In 1948, in response to a call for assistance following the atrocities of the Second World War, Jamaicans and other Caribbean persons travelled to the United Kingdom on ship, the Empire Windrush, many of them veterans of the Second World War. Hundreds travelled to the UK and worked in several areas of national life, including nursing, construction and transportation.

They were wrongly detained, denied legal rights, and threatened with deportation. Because many of the Windrush generation had arrived as children on their parents' passports, many lacked the documentation to prove their right to remain in the UK.

The Home Office placed the burden of proof on individuals to prove their residency predating 1973. It demanded at least one official document from every year they had lived in the UK. Attempting to find documents from decades ago created a huge, and in many cases, impossible burden on people who had done nothing wrong.

Falsely deemed as illegal immigrants - undocumented migrants, they began to lose their access to housing, healthcare, bank accounts and driving licenses. Many were placed in immigration detention, prevented from travelling abroad and threatened with forcible removal, while others were deported to countries they hadn't seen since they were children.
https://jcwi.org.uk/reportsbriefings/windrush-scandal-explained/

The case of Winston Jones: After Home Office immigration errors he was unable to return to his family in the UK for 10 years after taking a short holiday in Jamaica in 2025, and a decade of near destitution and homeless in Kingston where he had no family. (Amelia Gentleman - The Guardian – April 2025).

The UK government spent three years attempting to bury a report, written by a Home Office commissioned historian, that described how “the British empire depended on a racist ideology in order to function”, and noted that immigration laws in the postwar period were designed to reduce the UK’s non-white population (Amelia Gentleman - The Guardian - April 2024)

Seventy years after Windrush, we are again facing a new wave of hostility (The Barbados high commissioner Guy Hewitt).

Racism in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland is structural, institutional and systemic, UN experts said, warning that people of African descent in the country continue to encounter racial discrimination and erosion of their fundamental rights. (UN Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent 2023)

It is incumbent on us to fight slavery’s legacy of racism. The most powerful weapon in our arsenal is education**.** (UN Secretary-General António Guterres. 2023)

In the United States, what are often forgotten or undervalued are the history and the experiences of its black citizens**.** (The Smithsonian Museum of African American History)

Our education system has, for decades, rejected pleas made by two generations of black British people for history to be made a core part o the national curriculum. But the problem is that these modules are optional rather than compulsory. Geographic distance made it possible for slavery to be largely airbrushed out of British history following the Slavery Abolition Act in 1833. (UK Historian, David Olusoga)

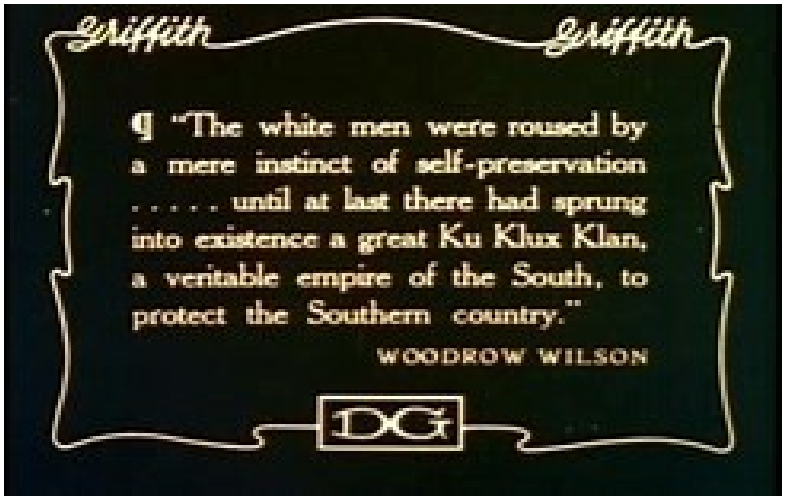
Gone and forgotten until it comes around again next October, Black History Month is challenging for those who argue that a people’s history should not be confined to a mere four weeks. (Kenneth Mohammed - The Guardian- 2023)

Black History Month is generally celebrated in the US and Canada in February, and the UK, Ireland, France, and Germany in October, as well as in several African, Latin American, and Caribbean countries.

Twenty bills proposing discrimination against the Negro were introduced in the first Congress of **President Woodrow Wilson**’s administration (1913-1921), they ranged from segregation of Negros on public conveyances and denying Negros commissions in the Army and Navy. (The Story of the Negro in America - Roi Ottley - 1949)

Wilson gave southern segregationists a dominant influence in his administration, while encouraging Blacks to focus on “uplift suasion” – The theory that as black people uplift themselves, white people will think higher of them – (Stamped from the Beginning, the Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America, Ibram X. Kendi -2016)

Wilson organised a private screening at the White House for members of his cabinet and his family of the infamous, film Birth of a Nation, glorifying the Ku Klux Klan:



With just a week until Election Day (2017), the Ku Klux Klan appears to be ramping up its effort to get GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump into the White House. The KKK Is Working To Get Out The Vote -- For Donald Trump, Of Course | HuffPost

In early 2025, US President Trump ordered high-poverty K-12 schools (Public and private schools from kindergarten to 12th grade 17-18 years, with a significant number of black students) to stop teaching "critical race theory" or risk losing federal funding.

Thirty state legislatures in the United States have introduced bills limiting discussion of racial history in a wave prompted by the emergence of critical race theory as a subject of political fear mongering. Over 300 books, by predominantly Black authors, on race gender and sexuality have been banned (The American Civil Liberties Union)

Cuba's government has launched a program to combat racism, acknowledging that a problem that Fidel Castro tried to eliminate after the 1959 revolution remains unresolved. The program aims to identify steps to fight discrimination, broaden education on Cuba's African legacy and start a public debate on racial issues, (Reuters November 23, 2019).

RACISM - CRIMES - ACTIVISTS

Biological races do not exist. Race emerged as a social construct from early biblical justifications to the pseudoscientific studies of today. (Robert Sussman - The Myth of Race: The Troubling Persistence of an Unscientific Idea - 2014)

We can say that one of the most crucial developments in the discovery of personal whiteness took place during the second half of the 17th century, on the peripheries of the still-young British Empire. (Robert T.Baird, the Guardian-2021)

Prevalent in many countries, slavery has created long-lasting systemic racism; intimidation, offensive remarks, police harassment and social segregation affecting people of African descent in their daily lives which can have an effect on their social wellbeing and health in general.
https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-53527405

Racism is not stupidity, racism is hate. Racists constantly find excuses to expound their hatred (UNICEF)

Silence is indifference. It contributes to perpetuating racial discrimination and oppression. (The UN Human Rights Office -2025)

Martin Luther King played a key role as leader of the American Civil Rights Movement from 1955 until his assassination in 1968. In Accra, at Ghana's 1957 independence ceremony, he declared that the country's freedom would "give impetus to oppressed peoples all over the world", since "both segregation in America and colonialism in Africa are based on the same thing,-white supremacy".

Early in my life, I learned that if you want something, you had better make some noise. (Malcolm X)

The Black Panther Party was founded in October 1966 in Oakland, California by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale. The BPP was a revolutionary organisation with an ideology of Black Nationalism, socialism, and armed self-defense, particularly against police brutality.

The Black Lives Matter Movement was founded in 2013 following the fatal shooting of an unarmed black teenager, Trayvon Martin, by former neighborhood watch captain George Zimmerman in February 2012.

In Cleveland, November 2024 marked the 10th anniversary of the murder of 12-year-old Tamir Rice by police officers who pulled up to the site where Tamir was playing with a toy gun, and one of the officers shot and killed him.

Among countless other cases, police crimes against black people in the United States will also be remembered by the prolonged video-filmed beating of taxi driver Rodney King in 1991, and the death of George Floyd in 2020 when a police officer, assisted by colleges, knelt on Floyd's neck for almost ten minutes. Floyd's "I can't breathe" became a national slogan.

The horrendous murder of Emmett Louis Till also merits remembrance. Abducted, tortured, and lynched in Mississippi in 1955 at the age of 14 after being accused of whistling at a white woman. The two men responsible were acquitted by an all white jury that deliberated for less than an hour before issuing a "not guilty" verdict …

Emmett's face was so hideously deformed that, "to show the World what I've seen", his mother, Mamie Till, insisted on a public funeral service with an open casket to publically display her son's body allowed the world to see the sort of brutality that African-Americans faced.
https://allthatsinteresting.com/emmett-till-story (photo

The case of Shiloh Hendrix, a white woman in Minnesota, went viral after admitting in a video that she called a 5-year-old Black child the N-word while at a local park. Despite public condemnations, she raised over $750,000 on the crowd- funding GiveSendGo.

A legal defense fund for Daniel Penny, a white army veteran, who killed Jordan Neely a Black homeless man, by holding him in a six-minute-long chokehold on a New York City subway in 2023, raised over $3.3m. (Gloria Oladipo. The Guardian June 2025)

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/jun/17/racist-crowdfunding-campaigns-extremist

The British Black Panther movement 1968 – 1973, fought for the rights of black people and racial minorities in the UK. The BMP adopted the principle of "political blackness" which included black activists as well as South Asian people.

"VOICES"

The great force of history comes from the fact that we carry it within us, are unconsciously controlled by it in many ways, and history is literally present in all we do (James Baldwin)

Today we have a more vivid image of American slavery than we have of life as it was for British-owned slaves (David Olusoga – Historian UK – The Guardian 2025)

Whether he likes it or not, the black man has to wear the livery the white man has fabricated for him (Frantz Fanon - Black Skin White Masks - 1952)

I am invisible simply because people refuse to see me (Ralph Ellison – The Invisible Man - 1952)

Slavery is a central and indisputable fact of the nation's past. But our failure to remember what really happened is more than mere forgetfulness (Gary Younge - The Guardian UK March 2023)

There's a lot of things that give you the blues; it's somewhere down the line that you have been hurt some place. (John Lee Hooker, Blues singer).

I sing the music of God because it gives me hope (Mahalia Jackson)

History is alive and well here! (Two Alabama residents to a reporter - 2015)

REPARATIONS

The Brattle Group's Report on Reparations for Transatlantic Chattel Slavery (2023)

SUMMARY OF QUANTIFIED REPARATIONS BY DESTINATION AND ENSLAVING COUNTRY BASED ON 2.3% INTEREST -2020 US$ BILLIONS

SLAVE DESTINATION COUNTRIES

Antigua and Barbuda $914 - **Bahamas** $42 - **Barbados** $3,502 - **British Virgin Islands** $95 - **Cuba** $3,207 - **Dominica** $617 -

Dominican Republic $683 - **Granada** $731 - **Haití** $4,628 - **Jamaica** $6,897 - **Puerto Rico** (U.S.) $311 - **Saint Kitts and Nevis** $1,158

- **Saint Lucia** $49 - **Trinidad and Tobago** - $353 **Virgin Islands** (U.S.) - $486 - **Central America and Belize** $1 - **Honduras** $10 **Mexico** $1,726 - **Panama** $124 - **Argentina** - $916 - **Brazil** -$17,858 -$17,858 - **Colombia** $4,323 - **Guyana** $418 - **Peru** $52 - **Suriname** $1,944 - **Venezuela** $236 – **U.S.** $21,512.

British Overseas Territories $340 - **Dutch Overseas Territories** $1,507 - **French Overseas Territories** - $1,992.

ENSLAVING COUNTRIES

(Descendant communities of enslaved people – Projected income loss and other disparities)

Argentina $6 – **Brazil** **$3,165 – Britain** $17,141 - **Denmark** $486 - **France** $6,630 - **Netherlands** $3,488 – **Portugal** $14,693 - **Spain** $12,213 - **Sweden** $8 - **United States** $19,125.

https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Report-on-Reparations-for-Transatlantic-Chattel-Slavery-in-the-Americas-and-the-Caribbean.pdf

In 1833, the UK Government contracted colossal loans, £20 million, (Around £2.5 billion in today's money) to compensate slave owners and their descendents after the abolishment of slavery. The "reparations" were so vast that it was not until 2015 that Britain finished paying-off the dept, the biggest in history at the time. It was British taxpayers (and not the rich descendents of slave owners...), who paid these "reparations".

The British Royal Family came under fire from Caribbean nations who demanded that the monarchy apologise for its role in the slave trade, and called on King Charles to "dig into his £2 billion personal fortune and pay for the royal family's slave trading past".

Following President Lincoln's 1852 Emancipation Proclamation, which eventually freed some 4 million slaves, the US government paid $300 to slave owners in compensation for each slave. Eight of the first 12 US presidents were slave owners.

In April 2021 the US Congress passed a bill to create a reparations commission which "Shall examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States. (This bill is unlikely to pass as all US presidents have previously been opposed to any reparations)

To offset the income that would be lost by French slave owners, France demanded that the newly independent state Of Haiti pay compensation, amounting to 150 million gold francs. After a new deal was made in 1838, Haiti agreed to pay France 90 million gold francs, estimated at $21 billion today.

It was not until 1952, more than 100 years later, that Haiti made the final payment for its "independence debt". Without this debt, Haiti could possibly have developed at the same pace as its Latin American neighbors. **https://www.nytimes.com/2022/05/25/reader-center/haiti-france-debt-payments.html**

HAITI– The First Black Republic

A long descent to hell

Haiti was paying reparations to France from 1825 until 1947. To come up with the money, it took out huge loans from American, German and French banks, at exorbitant rates of interest. By 1900, Haiti was spending about 80% of its national budget on loan repayments, which completely wrecked the economy. (Jon Henley – The Guardian 14 Jan 2010)

CARICOM - Caribbean Governments Reparations Commission - Plan of Action:

A Full and Formal Apology - Indigenous Peoples Development Programs - The Establishment of Cultural Institutions and the Return of Cultural Heritage -Remedying the Public Health Crisis - Education Programs.

CARICOM insists its main objective is not to exact huge sums from European taxpayers and is not looking to be compensated for slavery itself, but rather slavery's lasting legacy.

Countries concerned: Britain, France, Spain, Norway (Financiers and merchants), Portugal, Sweden (Colony of Saint Barthélemy), Switzerland (Investments in the Trade), the Netherlands (Colonies Curaçao and Saint-Eustatius) and Denmark (Colonies in Saint Thomas, Saint Croix and Saint John)

The Abolition of the Slave Trade Act was passed in the United Kingdom on 25 March 1807. From that day on, "All manner of dealing and reading in the purchase, sale, barter, or transfer of slaves or of persons intending to be sold, transferred, used, or dealt with as slaves, practiced or carried in, at, or from any part of the coast or countries of Africa shall be abolished, prohibited and declared to be unlawful".

(Note: Although *the Trade* was abolished, slavery continued in the British Caribbean)

A Committee established in 2021 by the United Kingdom suggested that Black Britons benefited from transatlantic chattel slavery**,** and that there should be a "focus on the positive aspects of that practice".

There is an almost insuperable difficulty in quantifying what many regard as unquantifiable, namely, reparations for the grotesque atrocity of transatlantic chattel slavery (Report on Reparations for Transatlantic Chattel Slavery in the Americas and the Caribbean, Patrick Robinson 2023)

The Durban Conference Against Racism: The 2001 UN Durban Conference Against Racism's final Declaration, imposed by US and European delegates, declared that "Slavery and the slave trade were appalling tragedies, a crime against humanity *and should always have been so*", thus forcefully overruling Non–Governmental Organization's protests and insistence on the phrasing; *"have always been so"* which would have validated demands for apologies and potential reparations by countries involved in the Trade.

In 27 March 2002, a UN Assembly voted on the above Declaration with 134 countries in favour, 2 against (Israel and the USA) and 2 abstentions (Australia and Canada). **United Nations General Assembly adopted the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

A. Missouri Sherman-Peter, LLD (HON.) Ambassador and Permanent Observer of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to the United Nations:

It is now universally understood and accepted that the transatlantic trade in enchained, enslaved Africans was the greatest crime against humanity committed in what is now defined as the modern era. In terms of its scale and it's social, psychological, spiritual and physical brutality, inflicted on Africans as a targeted ethnicity, this vastly profitable business, and the considerable subsequent suppression of the inhumanity and criminal nature of slavery.

The Outreach Programme on the Transatlantic Slave Trade and Slavery was established in 2007 with the adoption of **General Assembly resolution 62/122.** The Programme raises awareness of the history of the transatlantic trade in enslaved Africans, its impact on the modern world, and its legacies, including racism and prejudice. Over the years, the Programme has established a global network to educate the public about this dark chapter of history and promote action against racism. **United Nations Outreach Programme on the Transatlantic Slave Trade and Slavery**

The Caribbean was at the core of the crime against humanity induced by the transatlantic slave trade and slavery. Some 40 per cent of enslaved Africans were shipped to the Caribbean Islands, which, in the seventeenth century, surpassed Portuguese Brazil as the principal market for enslaved labour.

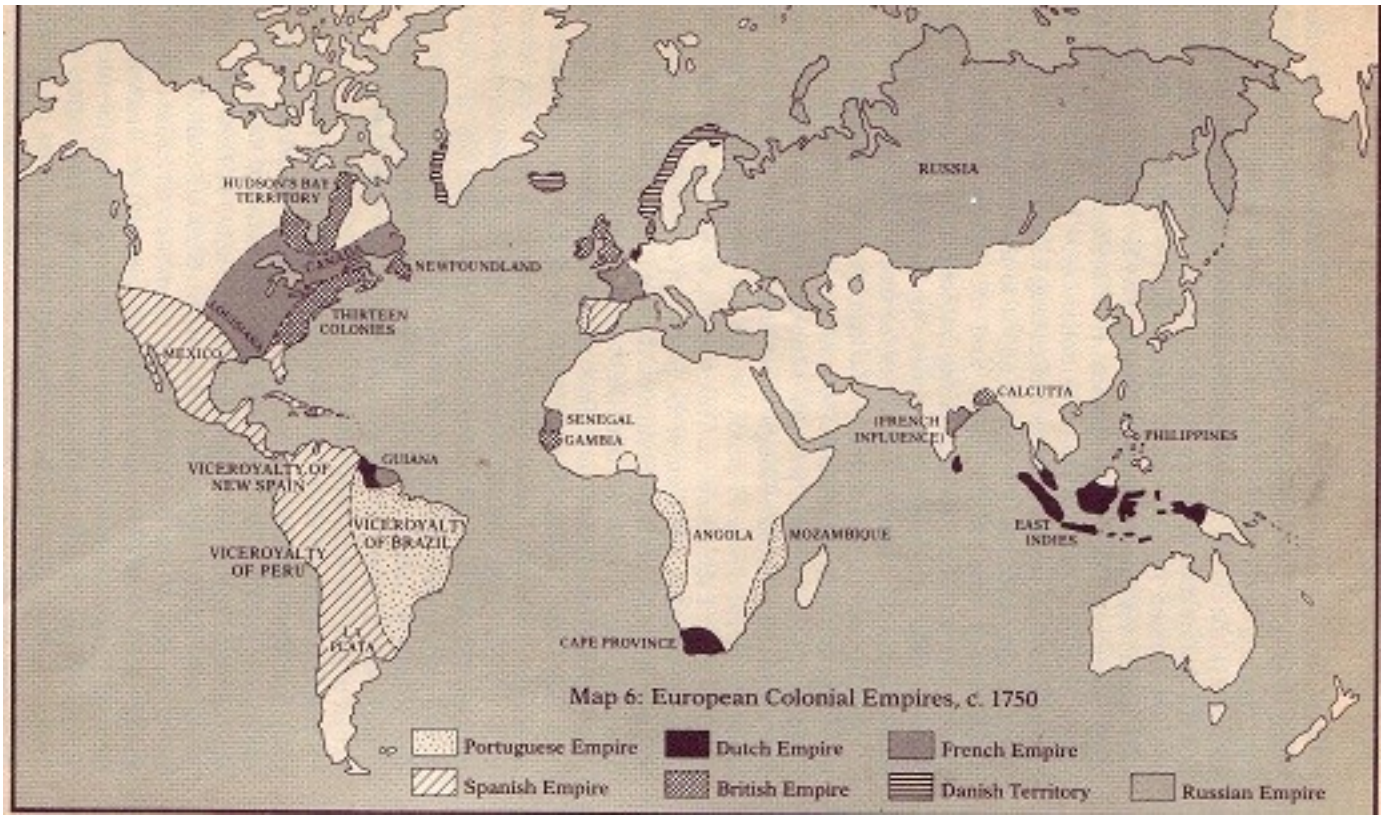
The sugar plantations of the region owned and operated primarily by English, French, Dutch, Spanish and Danish colonists, consumed black life as quickly as it was imported.

Critically, the Caribbean was where chattel slavery took its extreme judicial form in the instrument known, as the Slave Code was the first instituted by the English in Barbados. Passed in 1661, this comprehensive law defined Africans, as “heathens” and “brutes”, not fit to be governed by the same laws as Christians.

The legacy of the social and economic institution of slavery is to be found everywhere and is particularly dominant in the Caribbean. While colonialism has been in retreat since the nationalist reforms of the mid-20th century, it persists as a political feature of the region.

Europe remains a colonial power of over some 15 per cent of the Caribbean population, while the relationship between the United States and Puerto Rico is generally understood as colonialist.

European Empires 1750



FROM SLAVERY TO COLONISATION

Slavery was a world-wide integrated economic system that laid the foundation for the growth of modernity and colonial empires.

-26-

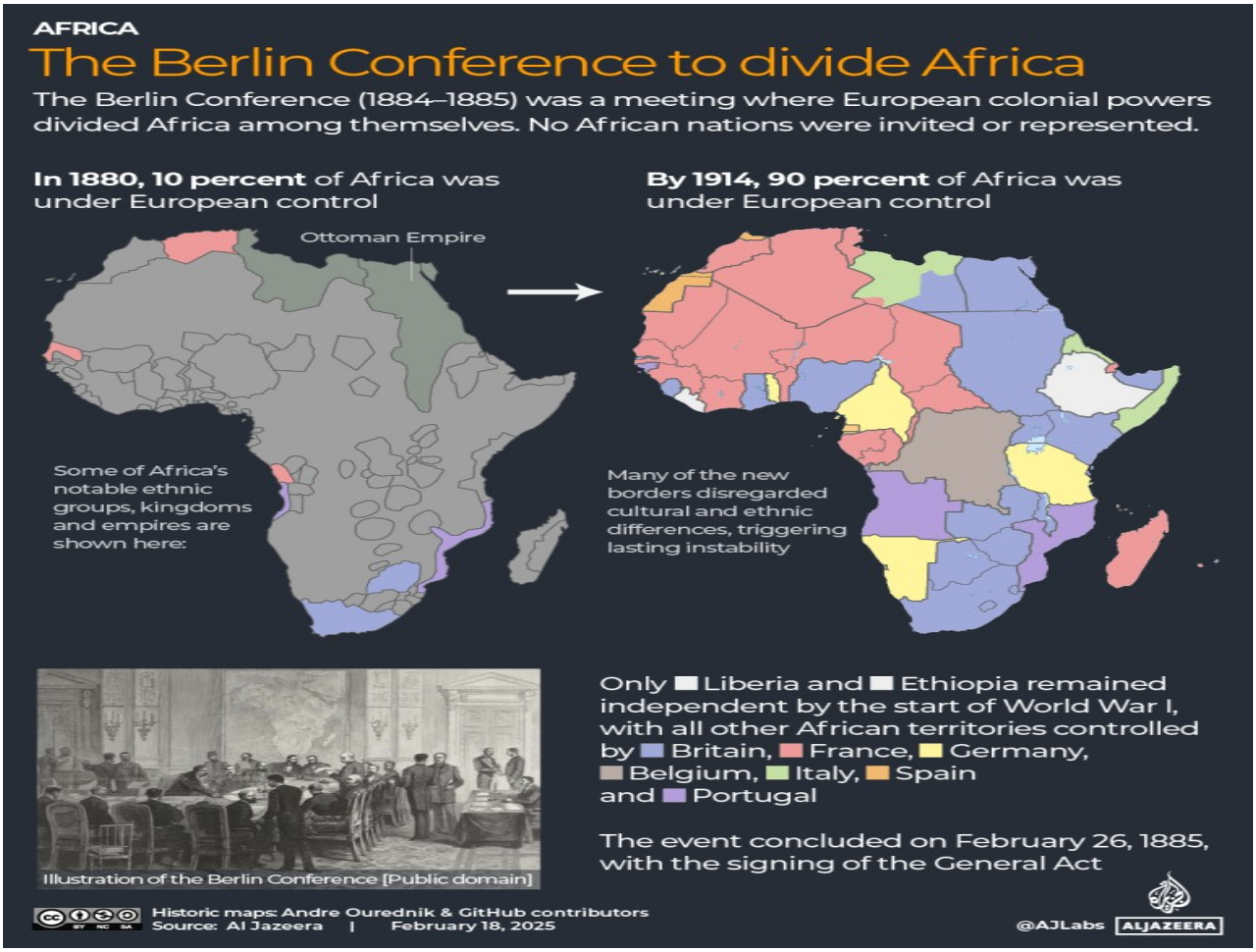
By 1914, Europeans had occupied as much as 85% of the globe as colonies, protectorates, dependencies, dominions, and commonwealths.

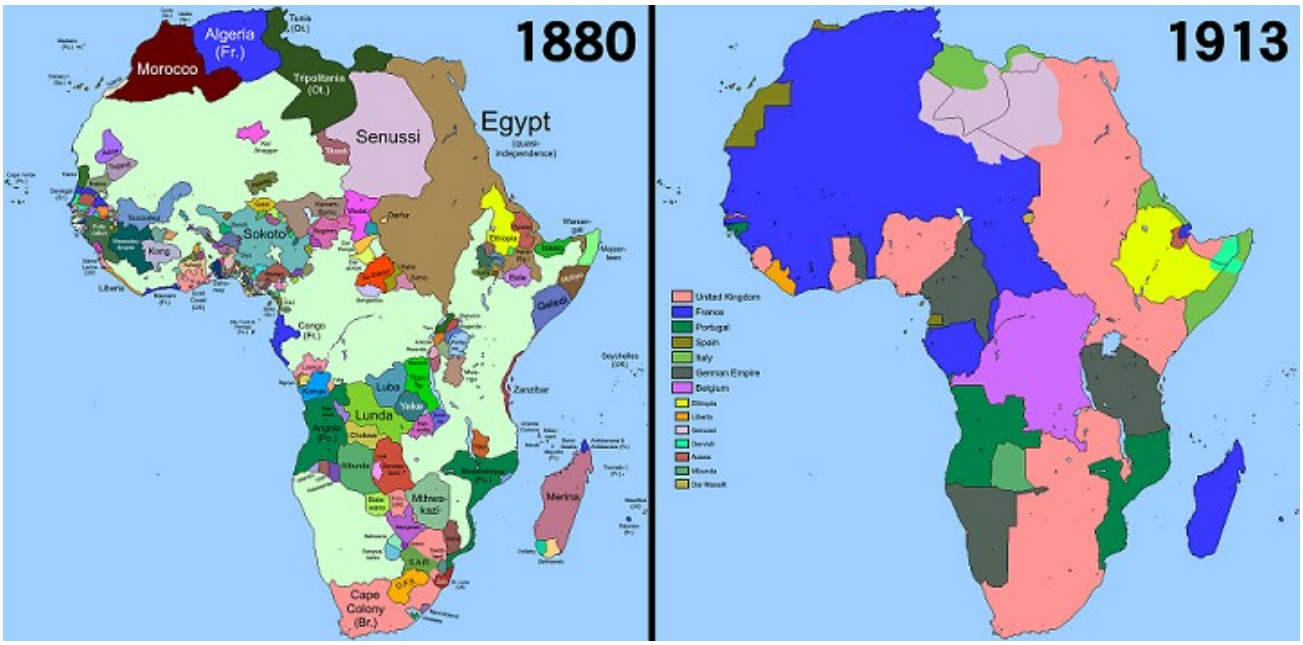
https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/beyond-trafficking-and-slavery/uncomfortable-silences-anti-slavery-colonialism-and-imperialism/

The Berlin Conference of 1884–1885 was a meeting of colonial powers that concluded with the signing of the General Act of Berlin, an agreement regulating European colonisation and trade to "develop and civilise Africa"

The conference was necessitated by the jealousy and suspicion with which the great European powers viewed one another's attempts at colonial expansion in Africa. Signed by 13 European powers, the conference included a resolution to 'help in suppressing slavery". In truth, the strategic and economic objectives of the colonial powers were far more important. No African nations were invited or represented**.**

https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/abolition/scramble_for_africa_article_01.shtml


AFRICA
The Berlin Conference to divide Africa
The Berlin Conference (1884–1885) was a meeting where European colonial powers divided Africa among themselves. No African nations were invited or represented.
In 1880, 10 percent of Africa was under European control
Ottoman Empire
Some of Africa's notable ethnic groups, kingdoms and empires are shown here:
By 1914, 90 percent of Africa was under European control
Many of the new borders disregarded cultural and ethnic differences, triggering lasting instability
Illustration of the Berlin Conference [Public domain]
Only Liberia and Ethiopia remained independent by the start of World War I, with all other African territories controlled by Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Spain and Portugal
The event concluded on February 26, 1885, with the signing of the General Act
Historic maps: Andre Ourednik & GitHub contributors
Source: Al Jazeera | February 18, 2025
@AJLabs
ALJAZEERA


1880
Algeria (Fr.)
Morocco
Tripolitania (Ot.)
Senussi
Egypt
Sokoto
Kong
Liberia
Congo (Fr.)
Luba
Lunda
Angola (Po.)
Mthwakazi
SAR
Cape Colony (Br.)
Zanzibar
Merina
1913
United Kingdom
France
Portugal
Spain
Italy
German Empire
Belgium

Politically, the structures imposed on the colonies were not meant to prepare them towards meaningful development. The borders cut across cultural and linguistic heartlands of different ethnic groups. In other words, African societies and cultures experienced significant dislocations and alterations during the colonial era. (INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT)

Recommended: A Special Investigation – The Cotton Capital - How slavery changed the Guardian, Britain and the World – An ongoing series.

How our founders' links to slavery change the Guardian today

(Katharine Viner - The Guardian March 2024)

Extracts: It is a deeply uneasy feeling to know that one of my predecessors, the Guardian's founding editor, John Edward Taylor, derived much of his wealth from Manchester's cotton industry, an industry that relied on firms such as Taylor's trading with cotton plantations in the Americas. .

In the Legacies of Enslavement report an apology was issued for 300 slaves connected with the Guardian's founders. The wealth generated during Britain's era of

Empire, and the Industrial Revolution, is inextricably linked to transatlantic slavery in the Caribbean, the US, South America and beyond.

Britons are widely ignorant of the scale and legacy of Britain's involvement in slavery and colonialism, a survey has found, with the vast majority unaware how many people were enslaved, how long the trade went on for, or for how long UK taxpayers were paying off a government loan to "compensate" enslavers after abolition.

The poll, released to coincide with Tuesday's UN International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, was commissioned by the Repair Campaign, which is working with Caricom to secure reparatory justice for member states through health, education and infrastructure projects.

The sample of more than 2,000 people representative of the UK population found 85% did not know that more than 3 million people had been forcibly shipped from Africa to the Caribbean by British enslavers.

It also found 89% were unaware British merchants had enslaved people in the Caribbean for more than 300 years.

British taxpayers finished paying off the money borrowed by UK government in 1833 - the equivalent to 40% of the government's total annual expenditure at the time – to compensate enslavers for their "loss of property".

"500 YEARS LATER NO JUSTICE NO PEACE"

End note: The History of White People: Nell Irvin Painter – 2010

Not a few Westerners have attempted to radicalize antiquity, making ancient history into white race history and classics into a lily-white field complete with pictures of blond ancient Greeks.

Those at the very bottom were slaves. Slavery has helped construct concepts of white race in two contradictory ways. First, American tradition equates whiteness with freedom while consigning blackness to slavery. The history of un-free white people slumbers in popular forgetfulness, though white slavery (like black slavery) moved people around and mixed

up human genes on a massive scale. In the second place, the term “Caucasian" as a designation for white people originates in concepts of beauty related to the white slave trade from eastern Europe, and whiteness remains embedded in visions of beauty found in art history and popular culture.

So long as racial discrimination remains a fact of life, and statistics can be arranged to support racial difference, the American belief in races will endure, but confronted with the existing American population, its distribution of wealth, power and beauty, the notion of American whiteness will continue to evolve, as it has since the creation of the American Republic.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE SLAVE TRADE

http://www.nlj.gov.jm/NLJ/files/u1/CHRONOLOGY_OF_THE_SLAVE_TRADE.pdf

1444 First large group of enslaved Africans brought to Europe.

1482 Elmina Castle (one of the most known slave trading forts in West Africa) built by the Portuguese; first European fort built on the Gold Coast.

1498 Columbus takes black slaves to Hispaniola.

1502 First record of African slave in the New World.

1510 King Ferdinand authorizes the shipment of a group of Africans to Santo Domingo, thus beginning systematic importation of slaves into the New World.

1517 First Importation of Africans into Jamaica.

1518 First black cargo direct from Africa arrives in the West Indies.

1538 First Negro slaves brought to Brazil.

1560 Continuous slave trade from Brazil begins.

1562 Sir John Hawkins sets out on his first slaving voyage.

1607 The Dutch West India Company is established and dominates early slave trade to the Americas.

1619 The first black slaves are shipped to the English Colony of Jamestown, Virginia.

1621 The Dutch West India Company granted monopoly over the Dutch African slave trade.

1637 Elmina Castle is captured by the Dutch who keeps it for the next two centuries.

1655 English capture Jamaica.

1663 King Charles II sets up the Company of Royal Adventures to trade with Africa.

1672 King Charles II forms the Royal African Company to control the English slave trade after the Company of Royal Adventures ran into debt problems.

1655 English capture Jamaica.

1697 French obtain St Domingue in Treaty of Ryswick.

1776 American Revolutionary War begins.

1783 An abolition bill is debated on moral grounds in the House of Commons but fails to get majority support.

1787 The Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade is formed in London.

1788 William Pitt orders investigation of the slave trade. First debates on the British slave trade in parliament.

1789 Bourbon reforms open Spanish colonial ports to slaves.

1791 St Domingue revolution begins

1791 Wilberforce makes motion in the House of Commons to introduce an abolition bill but is unsuccessful.

1791-92 Second Maroon War in Jamaica.

1791-1804 Haitian revolt against slavery and the trade effectively inspires and increases the abolition trade.

1792 House of Commons votes in favour of the abolition but is rejected by the House of Lords. - Denmark becomes the first country to pass a law abolishing the slave trade.

1793-1802 French revolutionary War between Britain and France effectively delays the abolition campaign.

1794 France passes initial laws abolishing slave trade. Legislation is passed by US Congress to prevent US vessels being used in the slave trade.

1796 House of Commons decides to end the British slave trade but the passing of an abolition bill is delayed.

1804 Haiti achieves its independence and becomes the first free nation in the Caribbean.

1806 Britain bans the sale of slaves to foreign colonies.

1808 Abolition of British and US slave trades takes effect.

1814 Holland passes law abolishing slave trade.

1816 Easter Rebellion in Barbados.

1818 France outlaws the slave trade.

1820 Spain abolishes the slave trade.

1831-32 Christmas rebellions in St. James, Jamaica, led by Samuel Sharpe gives monumentum to the anti-slavery movement.

1834 Britain abolishes slavery in the British Empire.

1850 Brazil suppresses slave trade.

bill.eire.74@gmail.com 2025